AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled).

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein disconnected content is content that does not require a bi-directional connection to a remote information store.

3. (Previously Presented) The method in claim 23, wherein executing a connected-content trigger comprises at least one of establishing and maintaining a bi-directional connection to a remote information store.

4-22. (Canceled).

23.   (Currently Amended) In an interactive television system that includes a receiver having customizable configuration information specifying whether the receiver is connected or disconnected, wherein the receiver can receive both connected content that can be accessed when the receiver is connected and disconnected content that can be accessed when the receiver is disconnected, a method for preventing a viewer from being interrupted by links to inaccessible connected content when the receiver is disconnected, the method comprising:

storing configuration information that can be customized to control when the receiver will filter out or execute a connected-content trigger that links to connected content and when the receiver will execute a disconnected-content trigger that links to disconnected content, the connected content comprising enhanced content that is accessed by the receiver when the receiver is in a connected state and the disconnected content comprising enhanced content that is accessed by the receiver when the receiver is in a disconnected state, and wherein the receiver will only execute a connected-content trigger and thereby access the connected content when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is connected;

receiving a connected-content trigger linking to connected enhanced content;

determining, based on a connectivity value, whether the content trigger is a connected content trigger or a disconnected-content trigger;

upon determining that the content trigger includes including a connectivity value distinguishing the trigger as a connected-content trigger, and upon determining that the configuration information indicates that the receiver is connected, executing the connected-content trigger to thereby access the enhanced content from a remote source over a bi-directional connection; and

upon determining that the content trigger includes a connectivity value distinguishing the trigger as a disconnected-content trigger, regardless of whether the configuration information indicates that the receiver is connected or disconnected, executing the disconnected-content trigger to thereby access the enhanced content from local storage without utilizing a bi-directional connection with a remote source to access the enhanced content.

and specifying that the trigger should not be ignored when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is disconnected; and

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~~executing the connected-content trigger only when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is connected, wherein the configuration information can be modified to selectively control times in which the receiver is connected and times in which the receiver is disconnected, and wherein the connected content trigger can be received while the receiver is connected or disconnected.~~

24.   (Previously Presented)   A method as recited in claim 23, wherein executing a connected-content trigger comprises displaying information associated with the connected-content trigger.

25.   (Cancelled).

26.   (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 23, further comprising:
modifying the configuration information from specifying that the receiver is disconnected to specifying that the receiver is connected.

27.   (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 26, wherein the configuration information is remotely modified by a third party.

28.   (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 26, wherein the configuration information is modified by a user of the receiver.

29.   (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 26, wherein the receiver receives and executes a connected-content trigger after the configuration information specifies that a previously disconnected ~~the~~ receiver is now connected.

30.   (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 26, wherein the connected-content trigger is received by the receiver when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is disconnected, and wherein the receiver stores the connected-content trigger at least until the configuration information specifies that the receiver is connected.

31.   (Previously Presented)   A method as recited in claim 30, wherein the receiver executes the connected-content trigger at a later time when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is connected.

32.   (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 23, further comprising:
modifying the configuration information to change the receiver from being connected to disconnected.

33.   (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 32, wherein the configuration information is remotely modified by a third party.

34.   (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 32, wherein the configuration information is modified by a user of the receiver.

35.   (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 23, wherein the configuration information is stored in a local memory of the receiver.

36.   (Currently Amended)   A receiver having customizable configuration information specifying whether the receiver is connected or disconnected, wherein the receiver can receive both connected content that can be accessed when the receiver is connected and disconnected content that can be accessed when the receiver is disconnected, and wherein the receiver prevents a viewer from being interrupted by links to inaccessible connected content when the receiver is disconnected, the receiver comprising:

means for storing configuration information that can be customized to control when the receiver will ~~filter out or~~ execute a connected-content trigger that links to connected content and when the receiver will execute a disconnected-content trigger that links to disconnected content, the connected content comprising enhanced content that is accessed by the receiver when the receiver is in a connected state and the disconnected content comprising enhanced content that is accessed by the receiver when the receiver is in a disconnected state, and wherein the receiver will only execute a connected-content trigger and thereby access the connected content when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is connected;

means for receiving a ~~connected~~ content trigger linking to ~~connected~~ enhanced content;

means for determining, based on a connectivity value, whether the content trigger is a connected content trigger or a disconnected-content trigger;

means for, upon determining that the content trigger includes~~including~~ a connectivity value distinguishing the trigger as a connected-content trigger, and upon determining that the configuration information indicates that the receiver is connected, executing the connected-content trigger to thereby access the enhanced content from a remote source over a bi-directional connection; and

means for, upon determining that the content trigger includes a connectivity value distinguishing the trigger as a disconnected-content trigger, regardless of whether the configuration information indicates that the receiver is connected or disconnected, executing the disconnected-content trigger to thereby access the enhanced content from local storage without utilizing a bi-directional connection with a remote source to access the enhanced content.

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~~and specifying that the trigger should not be ignored when the configuration information~~
~~specifies that the receiver is disconnected; and~~

~~means for executing the connected content trigger only when the configuration~~
~~information specifies that the receiver is connected, wherein the configuration~~
~~information can be modified to selectively control times in which the receiver is~~
~~connected and times in which the receiver is disconnected, and wherein the connected~~
~~content trigger can be received while the receiver is connected or disconnected.~~

37.   (Previously Presented)   A receiver as recited in claim 36, further
comprising means for modifying the configuration information.

38.   (Cancelled).

39.   (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

~~A receiver having customizable configuration information specifying whether the receiver is connected or disconnected, wherein the receiver can receive both connected content that can be accessed when the receiver is connected and disconnected content that can be accessed when the receiver is disconnected, and wherein the receiver prevents a viewer from being interrupted by links to inaccessible connected content when the receiver is disconnected, the receiver comprising:~~

~~means for storing configuration information that can be customized to control when the receiver will filter out or execute a connected-content trigger that links to connected content, wherein the receiver will only execute a connected-content trigger and thereby access the connected content when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is connected;~~

~~means for receiving a connected-content trigger linking to connected content, the trigger including a connectivity value distinguishing the trigger as a connected-content trigger and specifying that the trigger should not be ignored when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is disconnected; and~~

~~means for executing the connected-content trigger only when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is connected, wherein the configuration information can be modified to selectively control times in which the receiver is connected and times in which the receiver is disconnected, and wherein the connected-content trigger can be received while the receiver is connected or disconnected~~

<u>a receiver as recited in claim 38</u>; and

a transmitter transmitting video and the trigger with the video.

40.   (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 39, wherein the connected-content trigger is received by the receiver when the configuration information specifies that the

receiver is disconnected, and wherein the receiver stores the connected-content trigger at least until the configuration information specifies that the receiver is connected.

41.   (Previously Presented)   A method as recited in claim 40, wherein the receiver executes the connected-content trigger at a later time when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is connected.

42.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product ~~for use in an interactive television system that includes a receiver having customizable configuration information specifying whether the receiver is connected or disconnected, wherein the receiver can receive both connected content that can be accessed when the receiver is connected and disconnected content that can be accessed when the receiver is disconnected, the computer program product~~ comprising one or more computer-readable media having computer-executable instructions for implementing ~~a~~ the method recited in claim 23.

> ~~storing configuration information that can be customized to control when the receiver will filter out or execute a connected-content trigger that links to connected content, wherein the receiver will only execute a connected-content trigger and thereby access the connected content when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is connected;~~

> ~~receiving a connected-content trigger linking to connected content, the trigger including a connectivity value distinguishing the trigger as a connected content trigger and specifying that the trigger should not be ignored when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is disconnected; and~~

> ~~executing the connected content trigger only when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is connected, wherein the configuration information can be modified to selectively control times in which the receiver is connected and times in which the receiver is disconnected, and wherein the connected-content trigger can be received while the receiver is connected or disconnected.~~

43.   (Currently Amended) A computer-program product as recited in claim 42, wherein the method further comprises~~comprising~~ modifying the configuration information.

44.   (Previously Presented) A computer-program product as recited in claim 42, wherein the connected-content trigger is received by the receiver when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is disconnected, and wherein the receiver stores the connected-content trigger at least until the configuration information specifies that the receiver is connected.

45.   (Previously Presented)   A computer-program product as recited in claim 44, wherein the receiver executes the connected-content trigger at a later time when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is connected.

46.   (Previously Presented)   A computer program product as recited in claim 45, wherein the later time is an end of a delay period beginning upon receipt of the connected-content trigger.

47.   (Previously Presented)   A computer program product as recited in claim 42, the method further comprising:

receiving a disconnected-content trigger; and

distinguishing the disconnected-content trigger based on a connectivity value associated with the disconnected-content trigger.

48.   (Previously Presented)   A computer program product as recited in claim 47, the method further comprising:

executing the disconnected-content trigger.

49.   (New) A method as recited in claim 23, wherein the connectivity value indicates that the content trigger is a connected-trigger even when the connected-trigger links to locally stored enhancement content.

50.   (New) A method as recited in claim 49, wherein the locally stored enhancement content links to additional enhancement content that is accessible to the receiver through a bi-directional connection to a remote source.

51.   (New) A method as recited in claim 23, wherein a connected content trigger is filtered out and subsequently ignored by the receiver upon determining that the receiver is disconnected.

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